Wednesday, January 25, 2012

#1 FREE DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

WHAT THE 2012 OSCARS WILL LOOK LIKE {page 08}

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▶ Reyna Aguirre-Alonso, a Mexican immigrant, was "executed" during a hit late Tuesday.

'Because she got involved, she was murdered'

- Neighbors say 33-year-old store clerk wouldn't let drug dealers run corners around her N. Philly bodega
- Victim participated in anti-violence efforts {page 02}

Metropolitik

Debate: What are they lying about now?

- Candidates piled on Obama in Florida
- Did 'ObamaCare' kill jobs?
- Is the president just appeasing Iran? {page 06}

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Fed up, and gunned down

Beautiful, hard-working immigrant wasn't afraid to kick dealers off her store's corner
Friends, neighbors believe she paid ultimate sacrifice Police believe it wasn't random

The execution-style shooting death of a North Philadelphia corner store employee was described by a neighbors as a hit on a woman who didn't bend to drug dealers.

Reyna Aguirre-Alonso, who police identified as Rosemary Fernandez-Rivera, 33, was shot four times by a man wearing a ski mask inside El Caribe Grocery at 3300 Mutter St., detectives said.

The shooter wordlessly passed two other employees and did not announce a robbery before opening fire at 7:48 p.m. The motive for the killing is unknown, police said.

But Greg Bucceroni of Crime Victim Services, whose office is less than a block away from the store where the murder occurred, believes the intent of the shooting was clear: to send a message against police cooperation. Bucceroni said his organization reached out to neighbors, including Rivera, to participate in violence reduction efforts.

Rivera agreed, calling 911 on criminals hanging in front of the grocery and warning them to find another spot. "She was fed up with illegal drug transactions and dealers hanging out in front of the store," Bucceroni said. "It was impacting her business — customers were not coming in because they were afraid to walk past the drug dealers.

He believes she was targeted because of her efforts to drive the dealers away. "Because she got involved, she was murdered," Bucceroni said. "There's so much drug and gang activity here that the residents are overwhelmed. Law abiding citizens are hostages of urban terrorists."

Bucceroni said that, since the young woman's murder, he's already received about 75 phone calls from frightened community members who want nothing to do with the anti-violence campaign or even community cleanups.

"Neighbors are scared, real scared," he said. "Every time they call the police for some reason, even Homicide, they come to their house. It puts the ones who cooperate at high risk."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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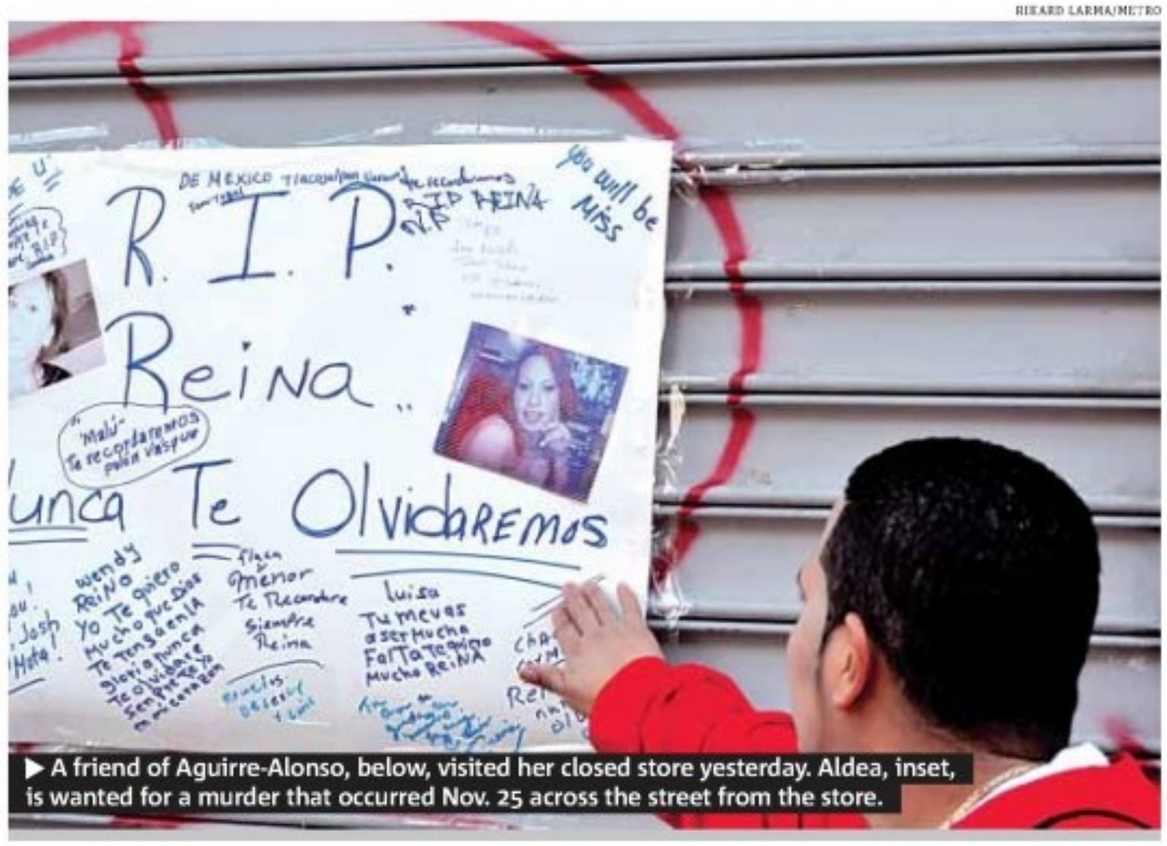
Quoted

"Because she got involved, she was murdered. There's so much drug and gang activity here that the residents are overwhelmed"
GREG BUCCERONI, CRIME VICTIM SERVICES

RIKARD LARMA/METRO



▶ A friend of Aguirre-Alonso, below, visited her closed store yesterday. Aldea, inset, is wanted for a murder that occurred Nov. 25 across the street from the store.

Neighbors 'traumatized'

Neighbors remembered Aguirre-Alonso as a generous woman who often gave needy patrons leeway when it came time to pay. "Everybody feels traumatized," said Molta DeJesus. "Everybody was a customer, everybody is a neighbor, everybody watches out for everyone else. But don't get it twisted — I don't trust anyone."

The remarks came as rumors swirled yesterday that Alonso was a cooperating witness in the Nov. 25 shooting of 22-year-old Luis Omar Chevere across the street from the store. Bucceroni said that Alonso mentioned seeing the slaying, but did not know if she was working with investigators.

Family members reportedly said that Alonso had recently been taken to identify possible shooters in the case. A warrant was issued Monday for Jorge Aldea, 22.

Police declined to comment on whether the two incidents were related. METRO/AW

In the news

Occupy Philly in Congress?

A member of the Occupy Philly encampment will become the first person from the Occupy movement to run for office, according to Politico. The website reported Nathan Kleinman, 29, will oppose U.S. Rep. Allyson Schwartz.

In the news

Bruce is back!
Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band will kick off their world tour by performing in Philadelphia for the first time since their 2009 final farewell shows at the Spectrum. Springsteen will hold concerts March 28 and 29 at the Wells Fargo Center, performing hits from his 17th studio album, "Wrecking Ball."
METRO

Free tickets to JoePa memorial put on eBay

GETTY IMAGES

PENNSYLVANIA. How much would you pay for tickets to Joe Paterno's memorial service?

Free tickets to Thursday's memorial service were distributed yesterday to more than 10,000 fans and alumni. By midday, tickets started popping up on eBay auction, with pairs selling for $400 and $500. One bid went as high as $99,509 before eBay finally pulled it. In fact, the auction site has removed all tickets to the Paterno memorial service, claiming it violated the website's policies.

"I can't tell you how reprehensible I find those kinds of actions," Penn State president Rodney Erickson said yesterday. "We have tried to do everything within our power to stop that, but there are certain legal limitations on what we are allowed to do." METRO

Drug and Alcohol nod

HARRISBURG. A former Philadelphia prosecutor has been tapped to head the new Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs by Gov. Tom Corbett.

Gary Tennis, who retired as chief of the legislation unit in the Philadelphia district attorney's office, will head up the new department being created as a result of a 2010 law passed under Gov. Ed Rendell.
METRO/SDL

Teen gunned down in West Oak Lane gunfire

WEST OAK LANE. Police are investigating the shooting of two 17-year-old boys last night, one of them fatally.

Rashi Anderson was from the 6200 block of North 21st Street, a block from the location of the fatal gunfire. He was shot numerous times in the torso on the 6300 block, while the teen accompanying him was shot in the leg. Police found both victims laying in the street around 8:20 p.m.

They were taken to Einstein Medical Center, where Anderson died at 8:34 p.m. The other victim was treated and released.

Police have not yet established a motive or made arrests. Anderson's murder brings the city's tally for the first three weeks of 2012 to 28 murders, not including a 28-year-old shot to death on 66th Avenue last week. Police have not yet classified his death as homicide.

The 27 murders through yesterday before Anderson's death tied it for the highest total through Jan. 24 under Mayor Michael Nutter. through Jan. 24. METRO/AW

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- Michael Vitez, Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/20/2011

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JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
22	23 WAS 7:00 CSN	24	25 NJ 7:00 CSN	26	27 CHA 7:00 CSN	28 DET 7:00 CSN
29	30 ORL 7:00 CSN	31				

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 CHI 7:00 CSN	2	3 MIA 7:00 CSN	4 ATL 7:00 CSN
5	6 LAL 7:00 CSN	7	8 SAN 7:00 CSN	9	10 LAC 7:00 CSN	11 CLE 7:30 CSN
12	13 CHA 7:00 CSN	14	15 ORL 7:00 CSN	16	17 DAL 7:00 CSN	18

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Agassi serves up a win for city school students

RICARD LARMA/METRO
▶ Agassi, rear, celebrated a new elementary school with children in North Philadelphia yesterday. His foundation bought an old factory, then leased it to a charter school provider.

A group of excited, young students got to show off their new school yesterday to Mayor Michael Nutter and a national celebrity.

KIPP, a national charter school provider, had a ribbon-cutting for the opening of its first elementary school in the city. The school leases a former factory in Allegheny which was purchased and renovated by an organization co-founded by tennis legend Andre Agassi.

The partnership is the first of what Agassi and KIPP officials hope will be several schools in low-income neighborhoods across the country.

"I'm a ninth-grade dropout. I was fortunate to have tennis to fall back on," Agassi told the audience, describing what led him to start the Canyon-Agassi Charter School Facilities Fund. "I said 'What about those kids who don't have tennis to fall back on? Where do they end up?' And unfortunately we all know that too well."

The school opened in August 2010, but just moved into the new facility last August and construction was finally finished last month. It has 150 students in K-2, with plans to expand to fourth grade by 2014. Parents say the school is a godsend.

109
Charter schools that KIPP owns and manages across the country; this includes four in Philly.

"I'm grateful to have this school here," said Brock Nelson Sr., who has twins in the first grade. Nelson, a school teacher, said he appreciates KIPP's model of preparing each student for college. "Just the structure, the time they have with them, I appreciate that."

Under a compact recently signed between the city, the Philadelphia School District and charter school groups, the city hopes to replicate the highest-performing schools and close poor-performing schools.

Nutter lauded KIPP officials for their record. "[The students] have to understand the opportunity to achieve is right there before them," he said.

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Call by Google for Philly doodles

PHILADELPHIA. Students from across the region are being asked to enter their own Google "doodle," which could eventually be displayed on the Google website, the Web giant announced last week.

This doodle commemorates Machu Picchu.

The topic of the contest is "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..." The winner of the contest will not only have his drawing on the website, but will also receive a $30,000 college scholarship and a $50,000 technology grant for his or her school, the company said. There will be a finalist from each state.

After the winners from each state, the contestants will be narrowed down to five finalists, then a final National Winner will be chosen May 18 in New York City.

METRO/MC

Hershey School controversy

PENNSYLVANIA. Protesters gathered outside Hershey School, about 100 miles northwest of Philadelphia, over the low-income private school's rejection last year of a 13-year-old boy who is HIV positive.

When the controversy began, the school said it rejected the boy's admission to protect the health of the 1,850 other students enrolled. The boarding school is funded by the Hershey Company.

Protester Jessica Reinhart of AIDS Healthcare Foundation said that if it's treated, HIV is "96 percent noninfectious."

METRO

News in brief

GETTY IMAGES

IMF cuts growth forecast, warns of global recession

WASHINGTON. The IMF chopped its estimate for 2012 global growth to 3.3 percent from 4 percent just three months ago and warned it could drop as low as 1.3 percent if Europe lets the crisis fester for much longer. For 2013, it predicted growth of 3.9 percent.

"The epicenter of the danger is Europe, but the rest of the world is increasingly affected," IMF chief economist Olivier Blanchard said at a news conference. **REUTERS**

Apple revenue surges past targets

SAN FRANCISCO. Apple Inc.'s quarterly results blew past Wall Street's expectations after U.S. consumers snapped up near unprecedented numbers of iPhones and iPads, sending its shares up 8 percent into record territory.

The world's most valuable technology corporation returned to form after a rare miss in the previous quarter, assuaging investors' worries that its sheer size meant it was headed into a period of slower growth.

It sold 37.04 million iPhones — its flagship product — and 15.43 million iPad tablets, doubling from a year earlier and easily outpacing already heightened expectations for a strong holiday season. **REUTERS**

Obama bids for second term in his SOTU speech

President Barack Obama pitched new initiatives on jobs, taxes and housing in an election-year State of the Union address, making a sweeping case for a second term despite the slow U.S. economic recovery and high jobless rate.

Framed in what was labeled a starkly populist speech, most of Obama's proposals will face stiff Republican resistance, limiting the chance of headway in a divided Congress before the Nov. 6 general election.

But the White House hopes Obama can gain enough traction with voters to help restore faith in his economic leadership as the Democratic president defends himself against escalating attacks by Republican candidates vying to face him.

Obama pushed tax breaks for bringing manufacturing jobs home from overseas, ideas to help the troubled home-mortgage market and incentives for alternative energy development.

"It's time to apply the same rules from top to bottom: No bailouts, no handouts and no copouts," an early speech transcript said.

He also called again for higher taxes on the wealthy — despite consistent Republican opposition — and for further pressure on China over its currency and trade practices.

While these initiatives do not offer a quick fix for high unemployment that threatens Obama's re-election prospects, his speech will be a chance to turn up the heat on an unpopular Congress and take control of the campaign narrative.

Taxes are the most divisive issue at the heart of this year's election campaign. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ President Obama

Romney paid tax at 14 percent

WASHINGTON. Mitt Romney bowed to pressure and gave a glimpse inside his personal fortune, releasing tax returns showing he pays a lower effective tax rate than many top earners.

Unlike Americans who rely on a paycheck, Romney earns most of his income from investment profits, dividends and interest. The returns for 2010 and estimates for 2011 showed that he will pay a total of $6.2 million in taxes on income of $42.5 million. **REUTERS**

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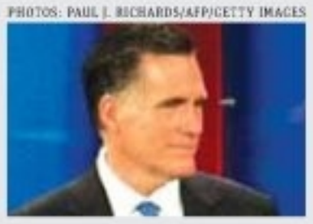
For complaints, suggestions and third-party communiques on behalf of an embattled West African monarchy, please e-mail brayden.simms@metro.us.

Aside from hitting the Ronald Reagan trifecta — Romney, Gingrich and Santorum name-dropped the right-wing icon all in their first at-bat to speak — what did the candidates focus on at Monday night's debate? Well, they lied — not just through their teeth, but via their lips and tongues as well.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

PHOTOS: PAUL J. RICHARDS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



"We're headed to a Greece-type collapse, and [Obama] adds another trillion on top for Obamacare and for his stimulus plan that didn't create private-sector jobs." ROMNEY

This one quote from Romney, as NYMag points out, "fits three lies into a single sentence," which is impressive for any politician and surely deserves accolades from both sides of the aisle for its contribution to the art of politicking.

"The Iranians are .... actively taunting us ... so [Obama] cancels a military exercise with the Israelis so as not to be provocative?" GINGRICH

The former Speaker incorrectly sums up the president's relationship with Iran. Aside from the fact that, according to reports, it was actually Israel who delayed this exercise, Gingrich downplays the president's toughest-ever sanctions against Iran.

Tweet roundup

- "Newt didn't mention his fantasy of having space sex. Probably for the best!" **@timothypmurphy**
- "Gingrich trying to defend wanting English as national language while advertising in Spanish..." **@CharlesMBlow**
- "'Markets have to have regulation to work.' @MittRomney now making a case for regulating derivatives, mortgages." **@AndrewKroll**
- "Newt is right. Obama sent the Iranians the wrong message by launching the military action that brought down Qaddafi. Oh, wait..." **@DavidCornDC**
- "Note there was big applause to Paul's dovish comments about Cuba. Times have changed." **@ClaraJeffery**

"The biggest issue that ... we have to deal with ... that's crushing the economy, will crush it even further and crush freedom ... that's Obamacare." SANTORUM

We know that vocal conservatives oppose the Affordable Care Act — and will do and say anything to kill it — but the idea that mandated insurance is bad for the economy is just wrong. A mandate, in this case, benefits insurance companies.

"He keeps hinting about attacking the Fed, and he talks about gold." PAUL

It was difficult to find untruthful remarks from Rep. Ron Paul, who spent much of the debate railing against U.S. military adventurism and our banking system. On that latter point, Paul seems overly optimistic on returning the dollar to the gold standard, about which he lauds Gingrich in the above quote. Economists surveyed by the University of Chicago, however, unanimously oppose the move.

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Emily Maynard is the chosen 'Bachelorette'

Here's the thing about "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette": If you want to put yourself in a ridiculous situation by vying for the "love" of some stranger while a group of other similarly dressed people do the same on national TV, that's fine. You are a (semi-) rational adult and that's your weird bag. However, it's when kids are involved that I get the heebie-jeebies.

It was announced yesterday that Emily Maynard, the 25-year-old single mom who was the chosen one on "The Bachelor" with Brad Womack, but then broke up with him shortly thereafter, will now be the star of the eighth season of "The Bachelorette." Although there is no word on what kind of role Maynard's 6-year-old daughter will play in the series, the ABC press releases are quick to point out that Maynard is the first single mom to star in the series. Maynard's little girl also appeared on "The Bachelor."

Look. It's great that single moms can be on "The Bachelorette." In fact, the series needs to broaden their casting net — more single moms! More single dads! How about single granddads?! Heck, what about a contestant who isn't white? But isn't it confusing enough for little children when their parents date multiple people/make out half-dressed in hot tubs without being on network TV? Here's hoping ABC won't showboat the little girl for ratings, like they did with single dad Jason Mesnick's 4-year-old son Ty on "The Bachelor."

Let's leave that poor parenting to "Teen Mom," shall we?

ABC/CRAIG SJODIN

▶ Emily Maynard will try to find love on national television — for a second time — as the new "Bachelorette."

Talking points

Seal speaks out about divorce

News of **Heidi Klum** and **Seal**'s separation has come as a surprise to Hollywood — and to Seal himself. But the British singer is putting on a brave face, insisting their split won't get ugly. "We're just not those kind of people — we never really have been," he says in an interview with PBS talk show host **Tavis Smiley**. "We've never been attracted to that. Of course it's a difficult situation that we have to handle right now and it's never easy. In terms of our love and respect for each other, that hasn't changed at all."

▶ Aniston

Will Aniston be a stay-at-home mom?

Jennifer Aniston doesn't have any new acting gigs lined up, and sources say that's just how she likes it, according to the Daily Mail. "She wants to focus on herself and hopefully becoming a mother," a source says. "She is thinking of launching her own fashion line which would allow her to spend more time at home." The source adds that Aniston has not scheduled any movies in the "foreseeable future," telling her agents "she needs a break." Rumors circulated last week that Aniston is six months pregnant, and reps for the actress have neither confirmed nor denied the reports.

▶ Franklin

Franklin calls off wedding

Aretha Franklin has called off her planned summer wedding to **Willie Wilkerson**, according to Hollyscoop. "Will and I have decided we were moving a little too fast, and there were a number of things that had not been thought through thoroughly," Franklin says in a statement. "There will be no wedding at this time. We will not comment on it any further because of the very personal and sensitive nature of it. We appreciate all of the many well wishes from friends."

▶ Aubry

More Berry and Aubry drama

Gabriel Aubry, **Halle Berry**'s ex-boyfriend and the father of her daughter, is reportedly being investigated for criminal child endangerment and battery, according to TMZ. Law enforcement sources say Aubry allegedly shoved his nanny into a door while she was holding his and Berry's 3-year-old daughter, **Nahla**. The investigation was launched after the nanny filed a police report, and Child Protective Services is reportedly mounting an investigation.

Jolie gets (even more) frosty

Awards season is apparently getting awkward, as **Angelina Jolie** hasn't warmed to **George Clooney**'s new girlfriend, **Stacy Keibler**, according to Us Weekly. Jolie and **Brad Pitt** reportedly shared a private jet with Clooney and Keibler to the Palm Springs Film Festival, and sources say the plane couldn't get there fast enough. "Angelina refused to acknowledge that Stacy was even on the plane," a source says. "Angelina went out of her way to ignore her, from takeoff to landing. She would not even look Stacy's way. She was not having it."

2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

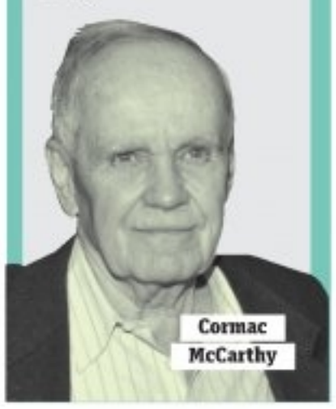
Cormac McCarthy is elevating the discourse on Twitter, Paris Hilton wants to share, Albert Brooks is making light of his Oscar snub and Sarah Silverman is making sense of the world.

@CormacCMcCarthy
Sitting on a balcony watching far hills. White spire peaks. I feel blessed. Despite the stabbers the day has been kind.

@ParisHilton
Had fun at Sundance, just got back to LA. I will be posting some iPhone pics from my trip soon. Stay tuned...

@AlbertBrooks
I got ROBBED. I don't mean the Oscars, I mean literally. My pants and shoes have been stolen.

@SarahKSilverman
Behind every great big bully there's a great big bully



Cormac McCarthy

Academy Award nominees announced

The Oscars

Yesterday the nominations for the Academy Awards were announced. Below is a list of the lucky nominees. The Oscars will air on Feb. 26.

Best Supporting Actress:
- Berenice Bejo, "The Artist"
- Jessica Chastain, "The Help"
- Melissa McCarthy, "Bridesmaids"
- Janet McTeer, "Albert Nobbs"
- Octavia Spencer, "The Help"

Best Supporting Actor:
- Kenneth Branagh, "My Week with Marilyn"
- Jonah Hill, "Moneyball"
- Nick Nolte, "Warrior"
- Christopher Plummer, "Beginners"
- Max von Sydow, "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close"

Best Actress:
- Glenn Close, "Albert Nobbs"
- Viola Davis, "The Help"
- Rooney Mara, "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo"
- Meryl Streep, "The Iron Lady"
- Michelle Williams, "My Week with Marilyn"

Best Actor:
- Demian Bichir, "A Better Life"
- George Clooney, "The Descendants"
- Jean Dujardin, "The Artist"
- Gary Oldman, "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy"
- Brad Pitt, "Moneyball"

Director:
- Michel Hazanavicius, "The Artist"
- Alexander Payne, "The Descendants"
- Martin Scorsese, "Hugo"
- Woody Allen, "Midnight in Paris"
- Terrence Malick, "The Tree of Life"

Best Picture:
- "The Artist," Thomas Langmann, producer
- "The Descendants," Jim Burke, Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor, producers
- "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close," Scott Rudin, producer
- "The Help," Brunson Green, Chris Columbus and Michael Barnathan, producers
- "Hugo," Graham King and Martin Scorsese, producers
- "Midnight in Paris," Letty Aronson and Stephen Tenenbaum, producers
- "Moneyball," Michael De Luca, Rachael Horovitz and Brad Pitt, producers
- "The Tree of Life," Nominees to be determined
- "War Horse," Steven Spielberg and Kathleen Kennedy, producers

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2005 NISSAN XTERA OFF ROAD — PW/PS/PL, Privacy Glass, Keyless Entry, Tow Pkg., Alloy Wheels, Cruise, CD — Gorgeous! $13,900
2009 FORD EXPLORER XLT — PW/PS/PL, 4X4, CD, Roof Rack, AWD, Keyless Entry, Privacy Glass, Auto Trans — Sporty! $14,900

TV watch list

'CSI: Crime Scene Investigation'

DRAMA. After 12 years helping to solve Las Vegas' most grisly crimes, Catherine Willows (Marg Helgenberger) makes the decision to leave the CSI team. **10 p.m., CBS**

'Touch'

DRAMA. Kiefer Sutherland plays Martin, a working-class widower struggling to provide for his emotionally challenged mute son, Jake, who has the ability to see patterns that connect everything and everyone in the world. The pilot weaves a globetrotting web of emotions as the interconnectivity of seemingly disparate people is revealed through Jake's actions and Martin's attempts to understand them. This is a sneak= peek at the series; it officially premieres March 19.

RICHARD FOREMAN/FOX

▶ Jake (David Mazouz), left, and Martin (Kiefer Sutherland) have a complicated father-son relationship on "Touch."

Series premiere, 9 p.m., Fox

'Whitney'

COMEDY. Whitney tries to get dirt on her boss' nemesis from the enemy's assistant, played by guest star Kathy Griffin. **8 p.m., NBC**

'Criminal Minds'

DRAMA. A serial rapist in Houston is assaulting his previous victims once again. Yeah, this show doesn't do happy, even to celebrate hitting 150 episodes tonight. **9 p.m., CBS** ● AMBER RAY

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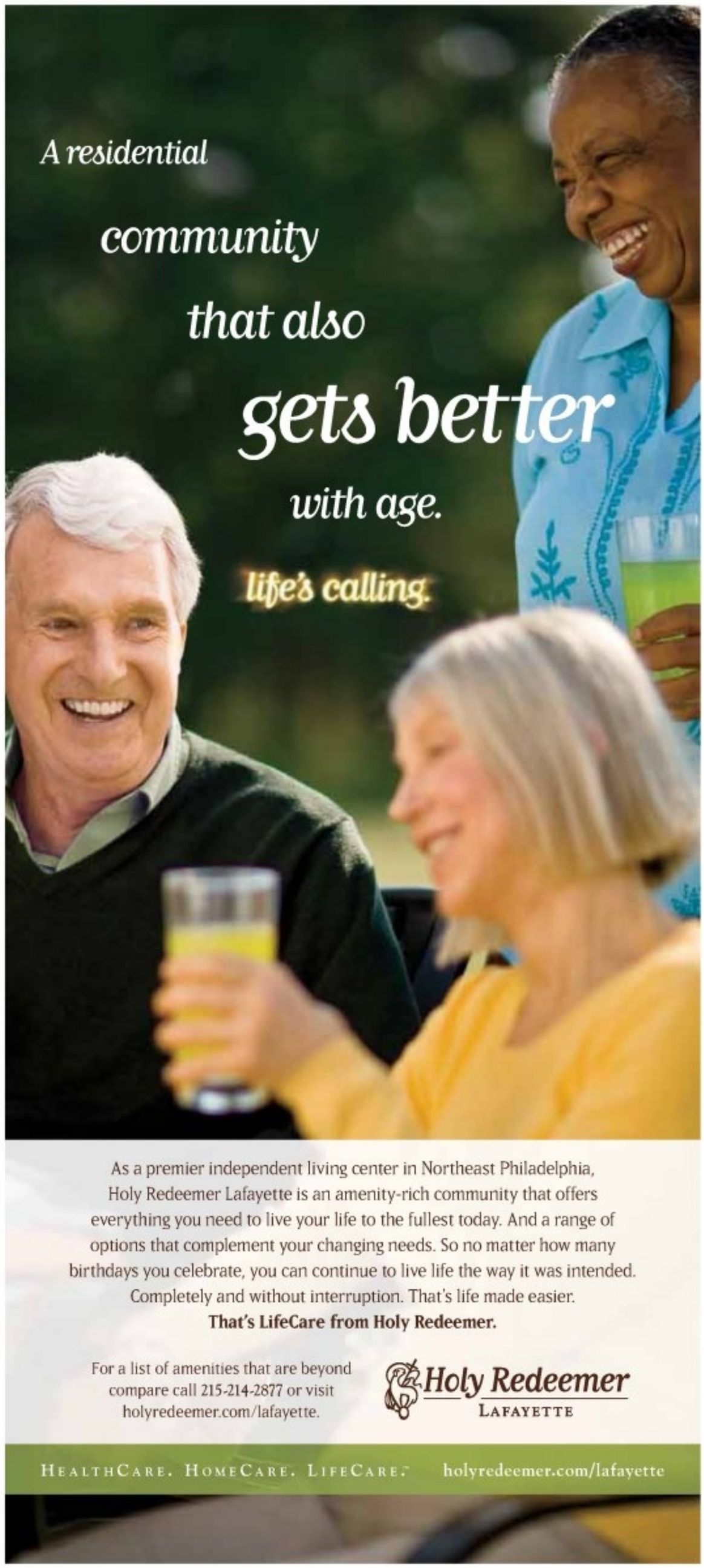

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Why is Tom's Wife Smiling?

And the simple trick he used to help him perform like a 20 year old! Without drugs, pumps, or embarrassing doctor visits.

By, Stefan Rothler; Freelance Health Writer;

If you're like Tom, you know how frustrating it is when you can't "Stand Up" for yourself. Especially in the bedroom! And even though your wife tells you "its okay"— she secretly wishes you weren't such "a softy". For your sake and hers.

Tom's Story:

Tom M. had a big problem. His love-life was "coming up short". And like a lot of men his age, he had a tough time "performing" in the bedroom.

But Tom's wife was kind. She reassured him with words like "it's no big deal"--- but it really was. So she urged him to get some help. He took her advice. . .

Tom searched the web for answers, and came up with nothing but scams. Everything he tried failed. He thought about asking his doctor about that well-known "little blue pill". But it was way too expensive (as much as $30.00 per tablet). Plus, it doesn't work for 32% of all men who try it. And according to its warning labels you could wind up deaf, blind, or even dead! It's just not worth the risk.

The Secret of the Adult Film Industry

And by age 60, you're left with a fraction of the HGH you used to have. The signs of aging become impossible to ignore... narrower shoulders and more weight around the middle... thinner skin that loses elasticity... creases and wrinkles... aching joints and brittle bones... all signs that your body is gradually breaking down.

Add to that, decreased desire and ability and a loss of muscle tone that leads to a dangerous loss of agility and balance. But none of this has to happen...

Secret of The Rich and Famous

As Tom continued his research, he came across something unusual. He read that male actors in the adult film industry use something called "Herbal Virility". Before filming, the actors would pop one of these tiny pills in their mouth--- so when the director yells "action"- there's always plenty of it!

It's been the secret of adult film producers for years! That's because instead of taking a full-hour for it to work, Herbal Virility starts giving you "solid, long-lasting results" almost immediately after you take it --- no waiting!

Tom was excited to try it. After all, Herbal Virility helped thousands of men get back their confidence in the bedroom. And since its all-natural Herbal Virility is a lot safer than drugs. There are no pumps to hassle with, no embarrassing doctor visits needed and it's surprisingly affordable. Plus, it's based on Nobel prize-winning research...

Here's How It Works:

In 1998, three scientists shared a Nobel Prize for discovering that the chemical compound nitric oxide (or NO) plays a vital role in widening your blood vessels so blood flows more freely... especially in the "intimate areas" of your body.

When you're young, nitric oxide flows abundantly through your body. Unfortunately, as you grow older, your NO production starts to diminish. As a result, so does your love life. That's why Herbal Virility is so important.

Just pop a Herbal Virility into your mouth. Its proprietary formulation has no bitter taste and dissolves quickly into your bloodstream.

Herbal Virility contains all 25 of the most potent natural male enhancement boosters on earth. It helps kick-start your body's natural ability to produce nitric oxide on its own. So you're ready for action when you want it --- and as often as you want it. You'll get a "big boost" of confidence in the bedroom. And your wife will be so excited she may wake up the neighbors!

Rave Reviews Coming in Everyday

Most men, who experience Herbal Virility's firm results, can't get enough of it. Here's what people are saying...

W. Pritchett II of Newport News, VA, tells us; "After I turned 52, I couldn't get it to work. I thought my fun was over. But now, thanks to Herbal Virility I can heat things up in the bedroom anytime I want to." Please send me another 6 month supply!"

Melissa M. of Key Largo, FL reports; "Herbal Virility saved our marriage! What a difference it made in my husband. He's like a new man! All I can say is WOW!".

Not Available in Stores

The demand for Herbal Virility has been overwhelming. And until now, there just wasn't enough of it to go around. That's why the makers of Herbal Virility are limiting its supply to newspaper and magazine readers only.

Herbal Virility is amazing. Men who try it can't seem to get enough. But to really understand why, you have to try it for yourself. That's why the makers of Herbal Virility asked us to "spread the word" by offering our readers a full-month supply, at a super-discounted, "readers only" price.

Try Herbal Virility Risk-Free... with a Limited Time Money-Back Guarantee!

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Tom Rides Again!

P.S... As for Tom, his love-life has never been better. His confidence has never been higher. And thanks to Herbal Virility, his marriage is the best it's been in years! See what all the fuss is about. Call Now: 1-800-469-5675.

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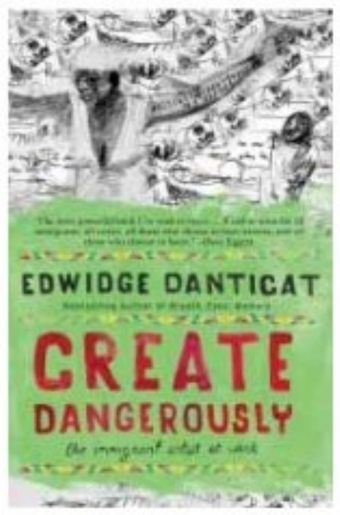

Philly's 2012 reading assignment

Edwidge Danticat's 'Create Dangerously' is a Haitian treasure

It's fitting that Edwidge Danticat's "Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work" is this year's "One Book, One Philadelphia" selection. Growing up in Haiti, Danticat is familiar with reading and discussing a single book as a community.

"In Haiti, a book was very much a treasured object, even comic books," she says. "If there was a book in the neighborhood, everybody in the neighborhood had read that book."

After arriving in Brooklyn at the age of 12, Danticat was overwhelmed by the amount of information available, for free, at the public library. "I couldn't believe that all these books would be entrusted to ordinary citizens," recalls Danticat, who now calls Miami home. "They had a section of Haitian books in French and Creole, and before I was able to read or speak English I was able to have this. I would just hoard the books — I was always one of those kids, and then later one of those adults, who was always at the limit of what you can borrow."

A collection of essays with a memoir sensibility, "Create Dangerously" examines what it's like to be an artist who has left a homeland in turmoil. "Most artists, I would imagine, have a kind of drive and urge – something that they perhaps do not understand that is pushing them to create," says Danticat. "The extra thing that I've found as an immigrant is that you're also examining this gap that you've fallen into — this gap that is between where you come from and where you are."

MONICA WEYMOUTH
monica.weymouth@metro.us

If you go

"One Book, One Philadelphia" kicks off tonight at 7:30 at the Free Library (1901 Vine St.) with a celebration that includes Haitian music, dance and poetry performances as well as a screening of local filmmaker Glenn Holsten's documentary about the "One Book" initiative. Visit www.freelibrary.org/onebook for info on other upcoming events.

Leaving the quake behind

"Create Dangerously" was released in August 2010, and was all but printed when the earthquake struck Haiti, destroying Danticat's family home and trapping relatives in the rubble. She has added an epilogue to the book. "It seemed like after the earthquake everything had changed. The landscape had changed, the people — those who were still alive — had changed," she says.

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Trends from the men's autumn/winter shows

Trend 1:

Military

It's a men's fashion paradigm that's been reworked on countless occasions, and this season was no different. Versace went for camouflage but not the type designed to make you blend in with your surroundings — unless of course you're on an acid trip in a rainbow world. Conversely, Jil Sander's designer Raf Simons found himself in a dark place with a collection worthy of the Gestapo, with long leather trench coats and black suits — a comment on oppression, perhaps.

Trend 2:

Period dress

Prada went down the literary trope of appearance and reality in a show entitled "Il Palazzo. A Palace of Role Play" with actors Gary Oldman, Adrien Brody and Jamie Bell all taking to the runway in high double-breasted suits and white collars reminiscent of Fin-de-Siecle chic — they should have topped it off with a cape from Dolce & Gabbana. Alexander McQueen went down a similarly archaic route with pinstripe suits, breeches and Prince of Wales checks.

Trend 3:

Tailoring

Milan's renowned for its suiting and — surprise, surprise — this season was no exception. While most designers were looking to the past, Paul Smith looked seaside. Dark, skinny pieces were dotted with neon, nautical motifs. But while Smith toyed with pops of color, Hermes returned to sobriety with slim, muted tailoring. Meanwhile, the tailoring at Burberry Prorsum arrived slim-cut (noticing a trend?) in shades of gray and later corduroy with military-meets-country flight jackets.

RICHARD PECKETT
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mytechnology

3DS-a-palooza

"Mighty Switch Force!" looks like a platformer, but it's really a puzzle game.

Nintendo boosts its online gaming shop with some strong new releases for your DS

Sidescroller

LAWRENCE BONK
LAWRENCE.BOMK@METRO.US

Nintendo isn't exactly known for its Internet acumen. "Get off my lawn" might be a good way to put its online preparedness. However, the 3DS eShop has been shaving away at that notion by quietly, and steadily, putting out good release after good release. Here are reviews of a few recent titles that you can buy in your underwear.

'Mighty Switch Force!'

Company: WayForward Technologies
Cost: $7
Console: Nintendo 3DS
Grade: ●●●●○

This is WayForward's third download-only title for a Nintendo portable. The first two, "Mighty Flip Champs!" and "Shantae: Risky's Revenge," set the bar incredibly high. "Mighty Switch Force!" mostly stays perched on that bar. It's a fantastic looking puzzle game masking as a platformer. The hook? You can use the 3-D to 'switch' around layers of the game-world, creating new pathways. It's fun as all get out, but can seem repetitive later on. You know, just like marriage.

Review

'VVVVVV'

Company: Nicalis
Cost: $8
Console: Nintendo 3DS
Grade: ●●●●●

First of all, let's address the difficult-to-catch elephant in the room. "VVVVVV" is unimaginably, ludicrously hard. This old-school sidescrolling adventure demands the most from those who play it. Usually this kind of mega difficulty is a turnoff, but it works here. Why? Speed. When you die, and you will often, you are right back to the challenge in about one-fourth of a second. This gives your motor skills the help they need to memorize tricky gravity shifts and jumps. This turns it from a frustrating experience to the most addictive game on the eShop.

'Zen Pinball'

Company: Zen Studios
Cost: $7
Console: Nintendo 3DS
Grade: ●●●●○

On one hand, this is just a pinball game. It's 2012 and long-haired dudes in Rush t-shirts aren't exactly flooding the pinball halls. On the other hand, it's a pretty dang good representation. The controls work flawlessly, the tables are varied and the 3-D almost tricks you into thinking you are staring at a real pinball table (for whatever that's worth).

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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What should Paula Deen do next?

Carb-loving celebrity cook Paula Deen's type 2 diabetes diagnosis means lifestyle changes are in order. We asked some experts what Deen, or anyone diagnosed with diabetes, should do next.

Skip sugary drinks: "Regular soda, fruit punch and even fresh-squeezed juices and smoothies can send blood-sugar levels too high. Choosing water or diet beverages will bring your weight and blood sugar levels closer to your target."

Focus on fiber: "Foods with three grams of fiber or more per serving help keep your blood sugar even and your stomach full. Think whole grains, beans and veggies."

— Friedman Diabetes Institute's diabetes educator Megan Fendt

Lose weight: "Weight loss is usually critical, even for people who are genetically predisposed to diabetes. In mild cases of diabetes, weight loss can completely eliminate diabetes; and in more severe cases, it can make diabetes more mild."

Stop smoking: "Smoking increases the risk of heart attack and stroke, just as diabetes does. When these risks overlap, they multiply."

— Brigham and Women's diabetes and hypertension specialist Dr. Alexander Turchin

Join a gym: "Start a moderate exercise program to lower glucose levels, regulate blood sugar and reduce the risk of arteriosclerosis [hardening of the arteries]. Strength training gives more lean muscle mass and better metabolic efficiency, which diabetics benefit from."

— New York Sports Club master trainer Monica Vazquez

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

▶ All that comfort food has caught up to fried food fan Paula Deen.

GETTY IMAGES

The eyes have it

Get regular eye exams:

"Annual eye exams are a critical component of the overall health care for a person with diabetes. Eye doctors monitor for diabetes-related conditions such as diabetic retinopathy, one of the leading causes of blindness in the U.S."

— VSP Vision Care optometrist Dr. Roger Phelps

Reader love notes

Enter for a chance to win a trip to Madrid! Post your love note online at **metroclassifiedsus.adperfect.com**. We'll run it in print and online on Valentine's Day.

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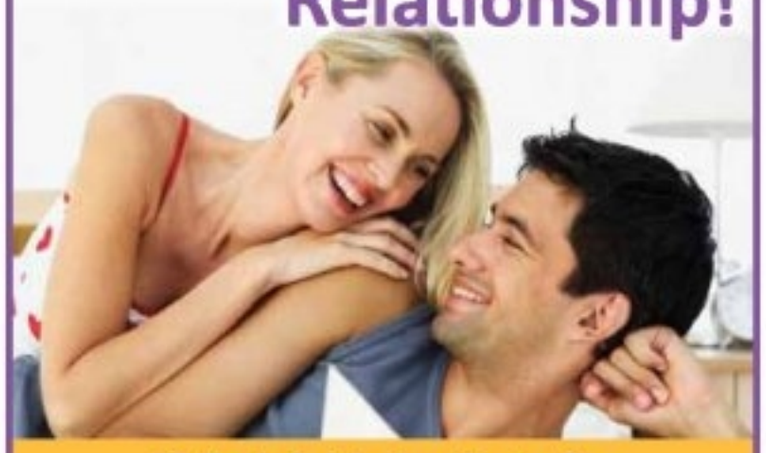
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Letters

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Ron Paul would fix our drugs problem

RE: "NATIONAL JOKE IS WHAT'S 'DESPICABLE'": Robert La Rosa paints a grossly distorted picture of Ron Paul. Paul is the only candidate who would seek to end the war on drugs, which disproportionately affects minorities. Under a President Paul, there would be no distinction (by the federal government) between smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol. The federal government does not arrest people for drinking, and so it should not for using other drugs. **KELLY DONNOE, VIA E-MAIL**

Conservatives have poisoned politics

While liberals are far from blameless in the poisoned waters of politics I have to say as a member of neither party that conservatives are the ones who need to stop, assess and go seek help. Threats of violence against liberal candidates and voters to keep them home; actually shooting a liberal Congressperson and now someone in Arkansas has killed a cat and left it spray-painted with the word "liberal" on it for its owner. Conservatives need to start living by those "heartland values" they try to cram down my throat at gunpoint instead of just spouting them in between terrorist attacks. **DOUG BROWN, VIA E-MAIL**

"The game is how to grab huge amounts of money from other people's work."

Romney and Gingrich are two sides of the same coin. Both are smart and cunning enough to play the game and win. And the game is how to grab huge amounts of money from other people's work. **PAUL SIMONS, PHILADELPHIA**

George W. Bush like the cowardly captain

George W. Bush leaves me with same taste in my mouth as the passengers Costa Concordia must have tasted when Captain Francesco Schettino abandoned ship, leaving them to fend for themselves. W never defended his high-deductible insurance and medical savings account plan when ObamaCare made it illegal. Like Schettino, Bush is in his lifeboat drinking champagne and oblivious to his dereliction of duty. **JOSEPH DUPONT, PHILADELPHIA**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** If you study your financial affairs down to the last detail, you should be able to discover some new ways to generate the gains you desire.

Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Refrain from judging someone you don't really know based on dubious information.

Aries **March 21-April 19.** Playing a supportive role generally isn't your bag; you're usually the person leading the pack.

Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Observe and study persons you admire who do things right, and you can learn more from them than you do from books.

Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you think those who are handling something of significance aren't doing a good enough job, assume a more active role in their efforts.

Cancer **June 21-July 22.** When you allow yourself to have as much time as needed to analyze an important decision, you'll be able to reach a solid conclusion.

Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Any task that requires considerable concentration as well as a certain amount of boldness is what you'll excel at.

Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Because your powers of persuasion are exceptionally strong, you'll be remarkably good at turning people to your way of thinking.

Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Take a deep breath and get down to business the moment you see an opening. It may not last long.

Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Numbered among your many virtues is an excellent organizational ability that you'll have a chance to use today.

Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If your desire to accumulate that paper is strong enough, you might be able to make some serious gains.

Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** The possibilities for advancing your self-interests are exceptional. Don't be unduly self-serving .

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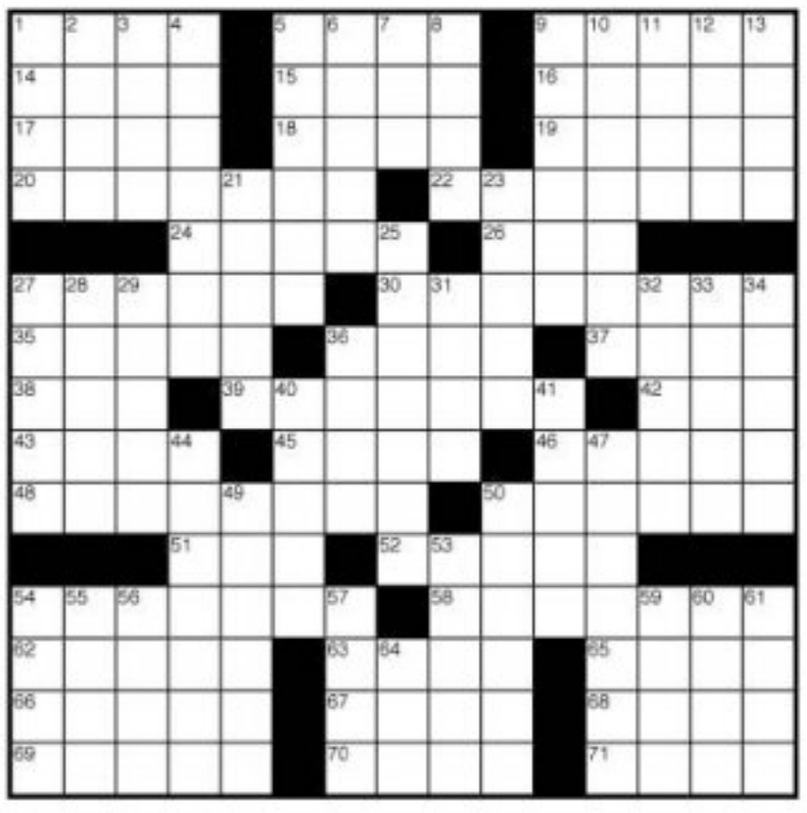
20 Charcoal grill
22 Like a hawk
24 Gather wool
26 Fox's abode
27 Sculptor's need
30 Acquired a patina
35 Tint twice
36 Palm reader's opener (2 wds.)
37 Verdi's princess
38 Tavern order
39 Income
42 IV x XIII
43 Edict
45 First name in spying
46 Sings gaily
48 Open-minded
50 Like patent leather
51 On the __ vive
52 Like a teacup
54 Start over
58 Windfall
62 A second time
63 Mountain refrain
65 Cat's-paw
66 Data in rows and columns
67 Que. or Ont.
68 Self-images
69 Sam __ of golf
70 Split
71 Thanks, in Kyoto

Down
1 Draw on glass
2 Salami vendor
3 Root around



4 Diplomat's post
5 Biologist __ Carson
6 Skylit courts
7 Mesh
8 Scholarly org.
9 Chimed
10 Pungent cleaner
11 Reddish-brown horse
12 Diminutive suffix
13 John __ (the Lone Ranger)
21 Gladden
23 Word of parting
25 Leopard spot
27 Make by hand
28 Sun, in combo
29 Best possible
31 Lucy Lawless role
32 Belly dance clackers
33 Fixes typos
34 Common wildflower
36 A Karamazov
40 Click "send"
41 Barkin or DeGeneres
44 Cactus drink
47 Treated salt
49 Bankrupted
50 Furrow
53 Dislike intensely
54 Wharf denizens
55 "A Summer Place" star
56 Golf's __ Zaharias
57 Part of LAPD
59 Dud, to NASA (hyph.)
60 Kind of lens
61 What is more
64 __ -Magnon

		4		7		8	2	3
	2	3			9		6	
			2	4				
6	7					9		
		9		6		1		
		5					8	7
				2	8			
	3		7			5	4	
5	1	6		9		2		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	2			5			8	
3	7	8	9			2	5	1
					2			
		9		2		8		4
7		5		8		9		
			1					
2	6	7			5	1	3	8
	5			3			7	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

G	A	P	E	■	P	O	L	A	R	■	R	O	B	E
A	L	U	M	■	S	W	A	L	E	■	I	M	A	N
M	I	D	I	■	A	E	S	O	P	■	V	E	N	D
M	A	G	N	E	T	■	S	H	O	W	I	N	G	S
A	S	Y	E	T	■	L	O	A	T	H	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	N	E	A	P	■	■	■	I	R	E	N	E
R	E	S	T	■	G	N	U	■	A	Z	A	L	E	A
H	I	P	■	■	U	S	H	E	R	■	B	B	S	■
U	N	A	B	L	E	■	F	Y	I	■	V	A	R	Y
M	E	R	L	E	■	■	■	E	Z	R	A	■	■	■
■	■	■	O	F	F	E	N	D	■	D	U	C	T	S
P	U	N	C	T	U	R	E	■	A	S	L	E	E	P
E	R	I	K	■	G	A	I	T	S	■	T	A	M	E
W	A	K	E	■	I	S	L	E	T	■	E	S	P	N
S	L	E	D	■	T	E	S	L	A	■	R	E	E	D

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Union, Chester 'very excited' to host All-Star game

MLS sets July 25 date for 2012 All-Star Game at PPL Park Sons of Ben show support, passion at City Hall

On a Tuesday morning, in the middle of an average work week, more than 75 members of the Sons of Ben made the trek to City Hall.

They wanted to appear in person to officially hear the news that the Philadelphia Union and PPL Park were going to host the 2012 MLS All-Star Game.

They even performed a "DOOP" chant at the request of Mayor Michael Nutter.

This type of passion is one of the main reasons this annual event is coming to the Chester waterfront on July 25. The game will be broadcast live at 8 p.m. on ESPN2.

"I think, and I've said this from day one, we have the greatest fans in the league," said Union CEO Nick Sakiewicz. "They were there years before the franchise was even awarded. So, for that commitment, this is their reward. I'm never surprised to see the Sons of Ben at these events. It's part of why we're here today."

Sakiewicz appeared at a news conference yesterday with MLS Commissioner Don Garber, Nutter and Chester Mayor John Linder.

The opponent has not been announced, but Garber is hopeful that decision will be made in the next couple of months.

"Nothing is set in stone, and we hope to have something soon," Garber said.

Last year's game at Red Bull Arena featured the MLS All-Stars against Manchester United. Manchester United won 4-0. This time, the winner is already the Union.

"The Philadelphia Union have quickly enhanced Philly's sports traditions with the most dedicated MLS fan base in the nation," Nutter said. "I have no doubt there will be a fantastic turnout for this year's festivities."

ANDY JASNER
sports@metro.us

Proud day

- In just their second season, the Union reached the Eastern Conference semifinals before losing to the Houston Dynamo in aggregate goals in the two-match series. Consider this midsummer event another goal along the way.
- **"What an honor it is to be hosting this game," said Sakiewicz. "We are very, very excited about it."**

99%

PPL Park attendance averaged 99 percent for capacity last season for regular-season games. They averaged more than 19,000 fans in 2010, their inaugural season.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ PPL Park will be rocking when the best players in MLS descend upon Chester for the All-Star Game on July 25.

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Hartnell gets call, ready for All-Star weekend

Flyers winger joins Giroux, Timonen on East roster • Serving as injury replacement for Toews • First career All-Star selection for 11-year vet

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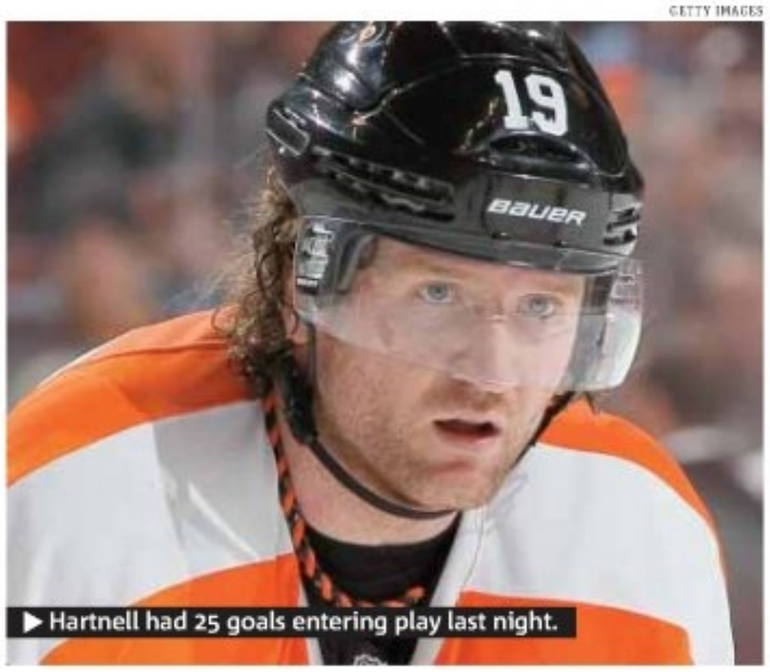

▶ Hartnell had 25 goals entering play last night.

Five goals in two games — in front of his dad, no less — would have been a pretty good week for Scott Hartnell. But the father-son trip will head north from Sunrise, Fla. to Ottawa, Ontario.

For the first time in his 11-year career, Scott Hartnell is an All-Star. He will replace injured Blackhawk Jonathan Toews.

"Obviously [I'm] really, really excited," Hartnell told the team's PR staff. "I didn't know if I was going to get the call or not and unfortunately some guys have to get hurt and take some time off. It'll be a pretty cool experience."

The last weekend wasn't so bad, either. Scott's father, Bill, was with the team in Newark, N.J., on Saturday and Philadelphia on Sunday to watch his son play.

"Five goals in two games, it's a good weekend for anybody, so I'll take it," said Hartnell after the shootout loss to the Bruins on Sunday. The emotional high continued into Monday, when Hartnell learned he was named the No. 2 star of the week behind Evgeni Malkin and ahead of Evgeni Nabokov.

"I found out [Monday] night," said Hartnell of his All-Star nod. "I got a call from Brendan Shanahan and he told me to kind of keep it on the down-low, but it was pretty exciting. It was right before bedtime and my heart was racing. I got a little nervous, too."

DAVE ISAAC
sports@metro.us

Flyers 3, Panthers 2

Claude Giroux's shootout goal, a wrister over Scott Clemmensen, gave the Flyers their first shootout win of the season (Flyers had been 0-3 in shootouts coming in). **Brayden Schenn and Jake Voracek** scored the two regulation goals for the Flyers. Up next is **Sunday's All-Star Game (4 p.m., NBC)**

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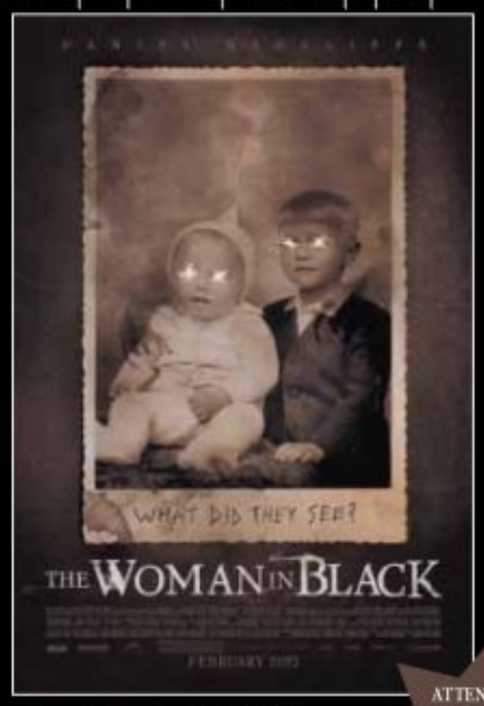

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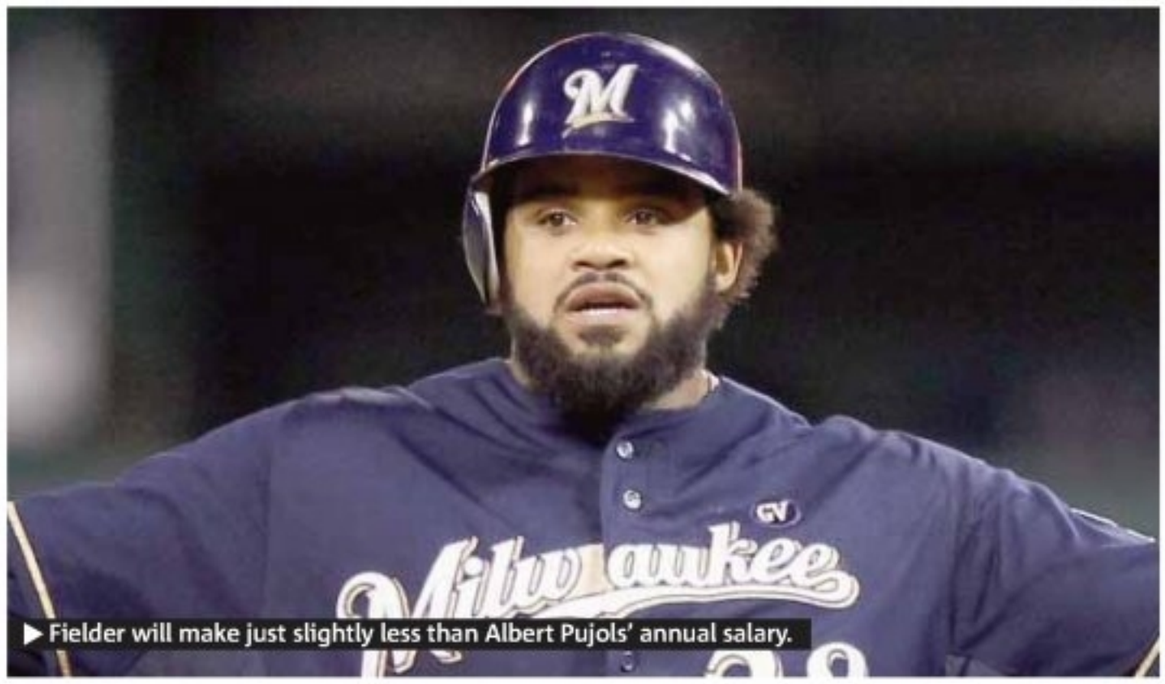

▶ Fielder will make just slightly less than Albert Pujols' annual salary.

Prince of Detroit: Tigers ink Fielder

The phantom team in the Prince Fielder sweepstakes turned out to be Detroit.

Fielder agreed to a nine-year, $214 million deal with the Tigers yesterday, according to multiple Internet reports, including one on MLB's official website. Detroit seemingly came out of nowhere, right after star Victor Martinez tore his left ACL. He could potentially miss the entire 2012 season.

24 Average annual salary in millions of dollars for Fielder (estimated at about $23.78 per season.)

Fielder's old team, the Milwaukee Brewers, never even made an offer for the free-swinging first baseman. Brewers GM Doug Melvin told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that he knew they couldn't match a $200 million offer sheet.

Fielder, a three-time All-Star selection, slugged 38 home runs and drove in 120 runs last season while holding a .299 batting average. The 27-year-old has hit 230 homers in seven MLB seasons.

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Rental site Inhabi takes some cues from online dating and matches Philly renters up with landlords

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In a city like Philly, where renters deal directly with landlords and property managers, not brokers, the apartment hunt usually entails scrolling through page after page of listings, leaving voicemails, sending e-mails and crossing your fingers.

"Online listing models are just a version of newspaper classifieds. We thought technology could be leveraged to create something more efficient," says Jameel Farruk, co-founder of Inhabi, a new apartment-hunting site.

Inhabi follows an "eHarmony-style platform," Farruk says, referring to one of the largest online dating sites. Renters create a free Inhabi account, fill out a profile about who they are and what they're looking for — whether it's hardwood floors or a quick commute to work — and get "matched" with potential landlords.

Landlords get notified when a renter matches one of their properties, then can message the renter through Inhabi — which makes money by supplying the renter's contact info.

It's a "behavioral shift" that seems to be catching on, Farruk says. "Usually landlords list properties and then wait for people to find them. We reversed the roles."

Farruk's background is in tech marketing and brand management, and co-founder David Friedman has experience in real estate and artificial intelligence. Both live locally, though they plan to expand the site to other cities in the future.

▶ Meet your apartment matchmakers.

"Online listing models are just a version of newspaper classifieds. We thought technology could be leveraged to create something more efficient."
JAMEEL FARRUK, CO-FOUNDER, INHABI

Expert tips

Inhabi might make finding an apartment easy, but there are still a few things to keep in mind before moving into your new pad:

- **Read the lease carefully:** This one sounds like a no-brainer, but it's all too easy to skim over the legalese. "If it's not clear on the lease, make sure it's clear in writing," Farruk suggests.
- **Make sure it fits your daily routine:** "We've heard of renters who found the perfect place, but the neighborhood was a dead zone for the cell-phone carrier," he says.
- **Get insured:** "Landlord insurance policies are typically limited to caring for the property, not assets belonging to the renter," says Farruk. "In an emergency or disaster, [renters insurance] could save the renter a lot of money."

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at home with metro

A 'serene oasis' in Brooklyn

Get the look

1 Play with accent walls
"I change the accent wall over each fireplace. Red in the bedroom for passion and blue in the living room for calm," Mehary says.

2 Embrace the blank canvas
"Many of the walls feature blank canvases because I didn't want them to look bare, but I did want there to be a sense of space. And because I am a creative, I need lots of inspirational items around for reference when I am drawing or designing," she explains.

3 Rotate accessories
"I kept almost all of the walls white so that I could accessorize the place with colorful pillows, fabrics or textures. I switch them in and out according to the season," Mehary says.

Jewelry designer Elsa Mehary channels Bali, India and Tulum in her vibrant pad ◗ You don't need to go to Cairo to replicate the look

"I can remember being 19 years old and hand-carrying a large glass lantern from Cairo back on the plane because it was too fragile to pack in my luggage," Elsa Mehary says of one of the many conversation-starting details in her pad. "But now, the same lamp can be found in a store like West Elm, imported for half the price and minus the story of adventure in an intricate maze of bazaars," she adds.

Mehary has lived in her two-bedroom apartment in Park Slope for 15 years. She's spent that time filling the place with carefully chosen figures and textiles she's picked up traveling to places such as Bali, India and Tulum. "I think of my apartment as a serene oasis in the center of chaos," she says.

She's achieved an overall look and feeling of zen through a mix of spiritual figures and colors that she found in near and far-flung places. There's the gold head of Buddha she found in Chinatown: "It's really heavy but I love the serenity it brings to the space." And an ornate cross lies next to a box of Bach flower remedies imported from Israel. "I was born in Ethiopia and plan on returning this year to visit all the amazing churches built into the ground in Lalibela. The cross is a traditional Orthodox relic from Addis Ababa, originally owned by my mom," she explains.

"The look of my apartment is constantly changing," Mehary admits. But the sense of calm never changes. "I incorporate the feng shui principles in determining location of color throughout the house."

All about Elsa

Name: Elsa Mehary
Occupation: Designer behind the jewelry line Mehary (www.elsamehary.com), and art director
The space: A two-bedroom brownstone storefront
The city: Brooklyn, New York

KENYA HUNT
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PHOTOS: ASHLEY MACKNICA

A glance inside

▶ Elsa Mehary has been carefully cultivating the eclectic global style of her Park Slope apartment for 15 years.

metro philadelphia mortgage guide

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